(c) what specific proposals relating to sick public sector units were discussed there and what was the outcome thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (c) No, Sir. What was stated was "We are also engaged in a major reform of public sector enterprises. The planned restructuring will improve the efficiency of these enterprises. Units which are patently unviable will need to be closed down. Social Safety nets will be developed to ensure that the costs of adjustments are not borne disproportionately by the workers". No specific proposals relating to sick public sector units were however discussed.

(b) Does not arise.

Opening of New Cooperative Banks in Bombay

*280. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received representation for opening of new Cooperative Banks in Bombay City;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that existing Nationalised Banks and Cooperative Banks are given permission to open new branches but new cooperative Banks are not allowed to be formed; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that between the years 1986 and 1991, one proposal was received by them for organisation of a new Mahila Bank in Bombay which was acceded to. It has further been reported that a representation was received in respect of a proposal of 1984 for the opening of a new bank which was not agreed to by RBI.

(c) and (d) Organisation of new urban cooperative banks is permitted on a need based and selective basis from districts which do not have adequate banking facilities. Further, subject to satisfaction of the prescribed norms proposals for organisation of a Mahila Bank in a district and those eminating from areas having pre-dominant concentration of weaker sections are considered sympathetically. Extension of urban banking facilities in the areas which are considered adequately banked is sought to be achieved by RBI through branch expansion programme of the existing banks. The object underlying this approach is to ensure continued viability of existing cooperative banks and to create avenues for their sustained and healthy growth.

Earning of Foreign Exchange through Granite Export

1743. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

SHRI S. MADHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that granite export are on the threshold of a big jump;

(b) the quantity of granite exported and foreign exchange earned during the last three years, yearwise;

(c) the names of the countries which imported granite from India during the period; and

(d) whether Government have studied the problems of granite export industry, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Exports of granite and products thereof during the last three years, year-wise, are estimated to have been as under:—

Year	Quantity ('000 Mt)	Value (Rs. Million)
1988-89	543.2	1300.8
1989-90	544.0	1470.0
1990-91	732.6	2270.0

During 1991-92, granite exports are anticipated to increase by 35 percent in Rupee terms.

(c) The main countries which imported granite from India during the last three years were Japan, Italy, USA, UK, Germany and Netherlands.

(d) The main problems of granite export industry are non-sanction/delay in sanctioning of mining leases by the concerned State Governments and restrictions on inter-state movement of granite rough blocks imposed by some of the States.

Quantum of Grants-in-Aid for code and Non-Code Activities

1744. SHRI SHIV PRASAD CHANPURIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the actual quantum of grant-in-aid for Code and non-Code activities released to IIFT, TFAI, TDA FIEO and various Export Promotion Councils during the past three financial years. i.e. 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91;

(b) what is the disbursements made to each and what provisions have been made for the year 1991-92; and

(c) whether there is a proopsal to cut off or taper off all such grants during next 2 or 3 years, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The grant-in-aid released to IIFT, TFAI, TDA, FIEO and various Export Promotion Councils during the past three financial years for their Code and non-Code activities was as under:

	Rs. Crores
1988-89	24.1698
1989-90	28.0558
1990-91	28.8220

The amount disbursed to each of the aforesaid organisations is given in the statement enclosed (*see* below). For the financial year 1991-92, a provision of Rs. 44.00 crores has been made towards grant-in-aid to the said organisations and other approved organisations eligible for MDA grant.

(c) An exercise is already underway to review the working of Export Promotion Councils and other promotional agencies under the Commerce Ministry. This exercise would also include efforts towards making these agencies self supporting.